

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A sheet feeding apparatus comprising:  
sheet stacking means for stacking sheets  
thereon;  
5 sheet feeding means for feeding the sheets  
stacked on said sheet stacking means; and  
heating means for heating the sheets stacked on  
said sheet stacking means,  
wherein said heating means is designed such  
10 that of heat generating areas of said heating means,  
a heating value of a heat generating area for a  
central portion of the sheets stacked on said sheet  
stacking means is greater than a heating value of the  
other heat generating area.  
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2. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim  
1, wherein a central portion of the heat generating  
areas of said heating means and the central portion  
of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means  
20 coincide with each other.
3. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim  
1, wherein said heating means generates heat  
substantially along diagonals of the sheets stacked  
25 on said sheet stacking means.
4. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim

3, wherein said heating means is provided  
substantially parallel to a surface of the sheets  
stacked on said sheet stacking means, said heating  
means has a wire-shaped heater, and said wire-shaped  
5 heater is disposed without intersecting.

5. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim  
1, wherein said heating means is designed such that a  
heating value of the heat generating area for the  
10 central portion of the sheets stacked on said sheet  
stacking means and a heating value of a heat  
generating area for a leading edge portion of the  
sheets in a sheet conveying direction is great as  
compared with a heating value of the other heat  
15 generating area.

6. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim  
5, wherein said heating means generates heat along  
the leading edge portion of the sheets stacked on  
20 said sheet stacking means in the conveying direction  
of the sheets.

7. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim  
1, wherein said heating means has a single wire-  
25 shaped heater, and said heating means is designed  
such that by said single wire-shaped heater, the  
heating value of the heat generating area for the

central portion of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means is greater than the heating value of the other heat generating area.

5           8. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said single wire-shaped heater is disposed along the diagonals of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means and the leading edge portion of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means in  
10 the conveying direction of the sheets.

          9. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said heating means comprises a plurality of wire-shaped heaters.

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          10. A sheet feeding apparatus according to Claim 9, further comprising control means for controlling the ON/OFF of said plurality of wire-shaped heaters of said heating means in conformity  
20 with a size of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means.

          11. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
sheet stacking means for stacking sheets  
25 thereon;

sheet feeding means for feeding the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means;

heating means for heating the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means; and

an image forming portion for forming images on the sheets fed by said sheet feeding means,

5        wherein said heating means is designed such that of heat generating areas of said heating means, a heating value of a heat generating area for the central portion of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means is greater than a heating value of the  
10 other heat generating area.

12. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein a central portion of said heat generating areas and the central portion of the  
15 sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means coincide with each other.

13. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said heating means is disposed  
20 along a recess provided in a frame of an image forming apparatus main body.

14. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 13, wherein said frame of said image forming  
25 apparatus main body is a bottom plate constituting a bottom of said image forming apparatus main body, and said recess is formed in said bottom plate

correspondingly to diagonals of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means.

15. An image forming apparatus according to  
5 Claim 11, wherein said heating means generates heat substantially along the diagonals of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means.

16. An image forming apparatus according to  
10 Claim 11, wherein said heating means is designed such that a heating value of the heat generating area for the central portion of the sheet stacked on said sheet stacking means and a heating value of a heat generating area for a leading edge portion of the  
15 sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means in a sheet conveying direction is great as compared with a heating value of the other heat generating area.

17. An image forming apparatus according to  
20 Claim 16, wherein said heating means generates heat along the leading edge portion of the sheets stacked on said sheet stacking means in the conveying direction of the sheets.

25 18. A heating apparatus having heating means, said heating means being designed such that a heating value in a central portion of a heating area of said

heating means is great as compared with a heating value in the other portion.

19. A heating apparatus according to Claim 18,  
5 wherein said heating means has a wire-shaped heater disposed substantially in a shape of 8.